

## NEW YORK HERALD

BROADWAY AND ANN STREET.

JAMES GORDON BENNETT,  
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Volume XXXIX.....No. 45

## AMUSEMENTS THIS AFTERNOON AND EVENING

METROPOLITAN THEATRE.  
No. 585 Broadway.—VARIETY ENTERTAINMENT, at  
7:40 P. M.; closes at 10:30 P. M. Matinee at 2:30 P. M.NIBLO'S GARDEN.  
Broadway, between Prince and Houston streets.—THE  
BELLIES OF THE KITCHEN, MORRIS BLUNDERS  
THAT ONE, Begins at 8 P. M.; closes at 10:30 P. M.  
Vokes Family. Matinee at 1:30 P. M.WOODS' MUSEUM.  
Broadway, corner Third and Broadway.—CIGARETTES, at 2  
P. M.; closes at 4:30 P. M. Same at 5 P. M.; closes  
at 11 P. M.FIFTH AVENUE THEATRE.  
Twenty-third street and Broadway.—POLLENE, at 8 P. M.;  
closes at 10:30 P. M. Mr. Harkins, Miss Ada Dyer.GRAND OPERA HOUSE.  
Eleventh avenue and Twenty-third street.—HUMPTY  
DUMPTY AT SCHOOL, and VARIETY ENTERTAINMENT.  
Begins at 8 P. M.; closes at 10:30 P. M. Mr. G. L.  
Duffy. Matinee at 2 P. M.THEATRE COMIQUE.  
No. 514 Broadway.—VARIETY ENTERTAINMENT, at 8  
P. M.; closes at 10:30 P. M. Matinee at 2 P. M.BOOTH'S THEATRE.  
Fourth avenue and Twenty-third street.—ELENE, at 7:45  
P. M.; closes at 10:30 P. M. Mrs. J. B. Booth. Matinee  
at 2:30 P. M.WALLACK'S THEATRE.  
Broadway and Third street.—MONEY, at 8 P. M.;  
closes at 11 P. M. Mr. Lester Wallack, Miss Jefferys  
Lewis.OLYMPIC THEATRE.  
Broadway, between Houston and Slenker streets.—  
CAVENDISH and NOVELTY ENTERTAINMENT and  
Holloman Opera Troupe, at 8 P. M.; closes at 11 P. M.  
Matinee at 2 P. M.GERMANIA THEATRE.  
Fourth street.—KINE VORNEHME EHE, at 8 P. M.;  
closes at 11 P. M.BROOKLYN PARK THEATRE.  
Brooklyn City Hall, Brooklyn.—FRA DIAVOLO, at 8 P. M.;  
closes at 11:40 P. M. Reliance English Opera Com-  
pany. At matinee.—BOHEMIAN GILL.MRS. CONWAY'S BROOKLYN THEATRE.  
Washington street, Brooklyn.—MARY STEWART, at 8 P. M.;  
closes at 11 P. M. Mrs. Conway. Matinee at 2 P. M.BOWERY THEATRE.  
Bowery.—POMP, OR, WAY DOWN SOUTH, at 8 P. M.;  
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Fourth street.—CONCERT of Caroline Richings  
Musical Union, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10 P. M. Matinee  
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No. 201 Bowery.—VARIETY ENTERTAINMENT, at 8 P. M.;  
closes at 11 P. M. Matinee at 2:30 P. M.BRYANT'S OPERA HOUSE.  
Twenty-third street, corner of Irving place.—CINDER-  
ELLA IN BLACK, NEGRO MINSTRELS, etc., at 8 P. M.;  
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Broadway, corner of Third and Broadway.—PARIS BY  
NIGHT, at 11 P. M.; closes at 1 P. M.; same at 7 P. M.;  
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Fourth street, corner of Irving place.—FOURTH  
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WITH SUPPLEMENT.

New York, Saturday, Feb. 14, 1874.

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distinction existing among the poor of the  
city makes it the duty of all classes to con-  
tribute something for the relief of the poor.  
In this, as in all other good and noble work,  
the press should lead the way. Editors, com-  
positors, pressmen, all should unite in the  
great work of charity, and give according to  
their means to the relief of the destitute.  
The employees of the HERALD have already contrib-  
uted, and if the example were followed by the  
other papers a handsome fund could be realized.  
With one glaring exception the news-  
papers of the city are unanimous in their  
appeals to the public in favor of the starving  
poor. It would, therefore, be peculiarly fit-  
ting to establish a press relief fund, managed  
by such a body as the Executive Committee of  
the Associated Press.

## The Condition of the Treasury.—Mr. Dawes on Retrenchment.

As chairman of the Committee on Ways and Means Mr. Dawes occupies a position superior even to that of the Secretary of the Treasury on all questions touching the financial condition of the country. When he speaks it is with an authority which no one else possesses, for his committee originates all money bills and supplies the Treasury with the means of meeting the requisitions of the great rival of the Committee on Ways and Means, the Committee on Appropriations. Between these opposing elements of legislation, each claiming and generally obtaining the sanction of Congress—the one to a decrease of the revenue and the other to an increase of the expenditures—the Secretary of the Treasury becomes a mere bookkeeper, trying the impossible feat of balancing an overdrawn account. That the Secretary should fail is not more to be wondered at than that the distinguished Mr. Micawber failed in the beautiful theory he enunciated to Traddles about living within one's income, especially when we remember that both Mr. Richardson and Mr. Micawber have the same system of finance—paying one I. O. U. with another. Accordingly Mr. Dawes' great speech in the House on the condition of the Treasury was not so much an attack upon the Secretary as it was an assault upon Mr. Garfield and his money-giving bills. That it is so regarded is apparent from the outcry that is raised against it, the smart of the lash being felt by the party leaders who have brought the Treasury to the verge of bankruptcy.

The Presidential campaign of 1872 was conducted upon two issues by the successful party—the boasted payment of the national debt and the promised reduction in the public burdens. Only one fiscal year has elapsed since that time, during which not a dollar of the debt has been extinguished, while the expenditures have been largely increased—how much we care not to say, because this is the very point in dispute between Mr. Garfield and Mr. Dawes. And we have the authority of Mr. Dawes for the statement, to which, we infer, the Secretary of the Treasury assents, that the close of the present fiscal year will show a balance of only ten million dollars, a margin insufficient to protect the Treasury from bankruptcy. This exposure, though it has been apparent all along, is all the more remarkable coming from the source it does, and it is not wonderful that Mr. Dawes' motives in making a speech which bears so harshly upon his own party and the majority in Congress should be sharply questioned by the politicians who believe in giving the couleur de rose to all the operations of the administration. A politician's motives are always a proper subject for criticism, but in this case the motives of Mr. Dawes are of little consequence if his assertions are true. It is no new thing in the Chairman of the Committee on Ways and Means to favor economy. Since he has occupied his present position of leader of the House he has more than once protested against the lavish outlay it is a habit with Congress to impose upon the country. In his own district, two years ago, he made a speech which clearly indicated the disasters which have since fallen upon the country, and if he did not faithfully stand by that speech it matters little now that he gives us a faithful account of the present and prospective condition of the Treasury. We have found frequent occasion to criticize Mr. Dawes in other respects, but in this matter, certainly the most important which can engage the attention of Congress, his conclusions seem to be as just as his averments are bold and manly. It would be unkind, to say the least of it, to seriously discuss Mr. Dawes' motives for making a speech which so clearly points out the faults of our financial system and the remedy for the evils.

Taking it for granted that bankruptcy is impending over the Treasury, all that remains is a discussion of the proposed remedies. According to Mr. Dawes there are three in number—increased taxation, a temporary loan, or retrenchment. Mr. Dawes earnestly argues for the latter; and this is no new plan with him. It has been steadily advocated by the HERALD also, from the beginning, as a necessary part of the policy for Congress to pursue in this matter. The expenses of every department of the government must be put at the lowest possible figure. General Garfield's appropriation bills must be jealously scanned. Every item not of absolute necessity, especially items looking to prospective improvements, must be stricken out. The provincial cities must be required to wait for their new post offices. New York needs many new buildings for the public business; but even the metropolis, with its vast commerce, must get along in cramped quarters till the country is in better condition to meet increased obligations. River and harbor improvements are out of the question. Useless offices must be abolished. Mr. Dawes' suggestion for closing ports where the customs expenditures are greater than the receipts is one to be honestly acted upon by Congress. Economy in public as in private affairs is the only method to make both ends meet. Voting away the public money to the extent of even a single dollar beyond that authorized by the most rigorous economy at a time when the currency is devalued and the revenue falls below the current expenses of the year is a crime. Congressmen must be made to feel the weight of public displeasure whenever their record shows they have been untrue to the public interest. It is the fear that this will be the case that causes the outcry against Mr. Dawes in political circles at Washington. We are told that he is riding the economic hobby for his own advantage, and Mr. Garfield hastens to explain that Mr. Dawes puts his figures too high, thirty millions of dollars out of three hundred and nineteen millions of expenditures this year being properly credited to the Sinking Fund. But what if this sum was not included in the aggregate of other years? This does not show that the revenue is equal to the expenditures or that national bankruptcy can be avoided without the aid of retrenchment. False pretences in financial legislation will no longer answer the needs of the country. Plain speaking is a necessary step to straightforward legislation, and Mr. Dawes' words, so boldly spoken, cannot fail to arrest the attention of the country, even though the majority in Congress should disregard them. But we do not regard retrenchment as the only way out of our trouble; for the trouble is partly due to the ridiculous

policy of endeavoring to pay off a debt there was no need of paying, and to pay which we had no money, as the event proves. Our deficiency is due to the pretended payment of the debt, and we must, if necessary, retrace the foolish steps taken in that direction. Some millions more or less on the amount of the debt are of little consequence to the people, but its proper management is of great importance. Fund the debt in fifty-year bonds and every dollar of it will be taken at four per cent, and that fact will be the first great step toward placing our finances on a sound basis.

The political consequences of a speech like that of Mr. Dawes are the first consideration with the professional politician. A trenchant exposure of the errors of the party in power, by a leading member of the party, instead of leading to a correction of the abuses, usually has the opposite effect. Scarcely had Mr. Dawes' great speech been uttered in the House when we were told that the Washington politicians thought it would undoubtedly be, in part, if not in whole, the leading campaign document of the reform opposition. It was not a speech spoken in the interest of the opposition. It was simply a plea for retrenchment and the proof of its necessity. It was a speech in the interest of the whole country; but if it had any party significance, for the present at least, it was in favor of the dominant party in Congress. This party is the only party which can give the country immediate retrenchment and economy for the future. Mr. Dawes' words were especially directed to that party whose leader he is on the floor of the House by virtue of his position. If the republican party heeds his advice its benefit will accrue to the republican party; but if his warnings are disregarded then the advantage will go to the organization that will grow from the ruins. A country that is bankrupt will have retrenchment in the public expenditures, if not from one party then from another, and the sooner the republican leaders learn this the better it will be for the whole people.

## What the Business Firms Can Do.

There should be a united or simultaneous movement of the large business establishments of the city to raise funds for the suffering poor. If such leading banking houses as Belmont &amp; Co., Duncan, Sherman &amp; Co. and Morton, Bliss &amp; Co.; if the large book and publishing establishments, as the Harpers, Appleton, Scribner and others, and if the large dry goods firms, as A. T. Stewart &amp; Co., Clafin &amp; Co., Arnold, Constable &amp; Co., and Lord &amp; Taylor, and other rich and extensive business firms, too numerous to mention separately, would severally act at the present time, an ample fund could be raised to relieve all the distress. They need only announce that one of their clerks is ready every day to receive contributions, and that they will see that it goes into proper hands to be honestly expended, and the public would furnish the money. If even a larger sum were accumulated than is needed during the present crisis, the balance could be invested and held as a reserve for future charitable purposes. Each firm would feel the tax upon its attention very little and the aggregate result would be immense. Then what a noble spectacle would our city present to the world! What an example it would offer! Now is the time for prompt and simultaneous action.

A GOOD EXAMPLE.—The workmen at Morgan's Iron Works have been requested by their employers to subscribe one day's wages for the relief of the suffering poor. The firm set a good example by heading the list with a large subscription, and as the men have had constant work during the year they can well afford the sacrifice they are asked to make.

THE WAR ON KING ALCOHOL.—The ladies of Ohio are still carrying on vigorously the campaign against the rum-sellers. As will be seen by the interesting letter from our correspondent at the seat of war considerable success has so far attended their efforts. No quarter will be given to any one who persists in the sale of any class of alcoholic liquor, and though in some instances the resistance is stubborn the ladies seem resolved not to lay down their arms until victory has finally crowned their efforts.

CONTEST BETWEEN IRISH AND AMERICAN RIFLEMEN.—The international rifle match proposed between Ireland and America has been at last arranged. We learn by a cable dispatch that the Irish Rifle Association has accepted the conditions on which the American riflemen are willing to compete. A good deal of interest will attach to the friendly contest, as the Irish team carried off the Elcho shield in the Wimbledon meeting, defeating the best shots of England and Scotland.

THE EIGHTH WARD is about to establish a committee to help the genteel poor who do not beg, and to whom soup kitchens may bring no alleviation of their sufferings. It is proposed to aid poor roomkeepers with small sums of money, to be used in paying rent or supplying coal. This is an excellent idea.

VISIT OF THE EMPEROR OF AUSTRIA TO ST. PETERSBURG.—The Emperors of Austria and Russia have shaken hands after the little disagreement which grew out of a review at Vienna. It is thought that the affair was smoothed over by the good offices of the Berlin Court. Very little political importance attaches to the visit, as neither Emperor is likely to allow his policy to be much influenced by hollow shows which at bottom mean nothing.

THE FOLLOWING FACTS are shown by the reports we now have on hand:—  
House of Refuge for year ending December 31, 1873:—  
Expended on the poor.....\$61,036  
Expended for salaries.....35,228  
Excess of charity over perquisites.....\$27,798  
Five Points House of Industry for year ending March, 1874:—  
Expended for charity.....\$14,000  
Expended for salaries, interest, &c.....26,000  
Excess of expenses over charity.....\$12,000  
Total expenditures of Five Points House of Industry in same year.....\$40,516  
Amount expended on outdoor poor.....215  
Has not the time arrived for investigating these charities and ascertaining just how the liberal funds they receive are expended?

RIOTING AT HAVANA.—The valiant Havana volunteers have made a riotous demonstration against the proposed levy, and were dispersed by the police and military. The Captain General proposes to send ten per cent of the stay-at-home soldiers to fight the insurgents, and they do not like it.

## Of Charity Experts to Charity They Cannot Profit By.

Mr. C. L. Brace, "who has had an experience of over twenty years with the poor of this city," and who in that time has collected about a million and a half dollars from the public in the name of charity, objects just now to the system of soup kitchens for feeding the needy. "They demoralize and pauperize the poor." Perhaps the fear of thus injuring the poor is a good reason for consuming in salaries what the public give to help the wretched; but we do not believe it. From the published reports we learn that the Children's Aid Society paid in the last year seventy-five thousand dollars for salaries and other expenses. That society has been in operation twenty years, and in that time has collected one and a half million dollars. Now, seventy-five thousand dollars for twenty years makes just the sum of one million and a half. How much, then, has gone to the poor? In the earlier years, perhaps, this society did not pay so many salaries, and the poor have received the little accounted for by that difference. Not much there to "demoralize" anybody. Some very little soup kitchens might do more "harm" than that.

"What every one familiar with the poor most dreads," says the same gentleman, "is the growth of the habit of dependence and begging." No; there is something universally more dreaded than that—something far more repulsive to every one familiar or unfamiliar—and that is the habit of collecting money for the poor of which the poor receive from five to ten cents on the dollar, and on the remainder of which professional philanthropists get fat. All the world, we believe—every one animated by a generous or charitable impulse—loathes that sort of character; and from time immemorial it has been recognized as a creature to be guarded against. In all countries it appears. In charitable England a pastor of the Established Church was lately sent to prison because he had been for several years making regular collections for a home for poor children, which home was found upon inquiry to have no existence. It is not the same, of course, with the Children's Aid Society, for it does exist and does send children out West. That is known, for the public have heard how the poor little creatures were dropped as paupers in the streets of Western cities like St. Louis, and how some of them tramped all the way back to this city.

Another "expert" in the pursuit of charity—Mr. Barnard, of the Five Points House of Industry—believes that "there is more danger this season of bringing upon us as a community the curse of mendicancy than that there will be cases of starvation." They have no fear that any one will starve, though many have already been days without food. Their only dread is that "the curse of mendicancy" will come upon us through money given to the poor which does not pass through their hands. There's the rub. "I do not hesitate to affirm," says this latest expert, "that there are now in the city all the organizations necessary for the care of all the worthy poor, and the only requisite is the necessary fund from which to draw supplies." That is plain enough. It means, simply, "Don't throw away your money on wretched starvelings. Send it all to us. We will put it where it will do most good, and you may be sure it will not encourage people to be mendicants."

There is one good thing likely to result from the present distress. It will turn the attention of the people to the administration of some public charities, and will probably expose and explode some dreadfully rotten ones. Our opinion is that the Children's Aid Society will prove the worst of these. That society receives from the city and county seventy thousand dollars for educating nine thousand children, and shows itself that it only has three thousand; and for the education of that three thousand it appeals to public charity. It has a newsboys' lodging house, supplied and kept by the contributions of charitable people, and not a newsboy can sleep in it without paying six cents; so that people give money to furnish beds for poor little wretches, and wolves in sheep's clothing take the money and shut the boys out in the street. And this society that shuts into the street on a winter's night any newsboy who has not six cents—this creature of well developed benevolence—has one hundred and sixty-four thousand dollars invested in the shares of a Western railway.

THE TWENTY-FIRST WARD will open a soup house on Tuesday next, at No. 203 East Thirty-third street. A visitation committee will also be organized to seek out the poor in their homes and bring relief to those who may be prevented by a false shame from applying for aid at the soup house.

THE CARLIST WAR.—The government of Serrano does not appear to be very successful in the campaign against the Carlists. Bilbao is still invested by the forces of Don Carlos, and Moriones, as usual, is about to attack them. He appears, however, to be much more formidable on paper than in action, and we have very little faith in his power to relieve the city. As the Carlists do not possess siege artillery it is not probable that they will take Bilbao; but the continued blockade aids their cause by the moral effect it exercises on their adherents through Spain by showing the impotence of the Madrid government.

THE THIRD WARD opened a soup house at No. 14 Day street yesterday, under the auspices of the New York Juvenile Guardian Society. The place was literally besieged by the destitute poor, but there was a noticeable absence of the bummer element. Most of the applicants were quiet and orderly people reduced to want by the stagnation in trade. Here is another proof of the necessity and advantage of the soup house.

THE HOWARD INQUIRY.—President Grant yesterday approved the joint resolution giving General Howard a special court of inquiry. We hope that the charges against the General will be strictly investigated, in order that the question shall be satisfactorily and finally settled.

THE FIFTEENTH WARD, not to be behind in the work of charity, has opened a free kitchen at No. 219 Mercer street, next to the police station, where the unfortunate lodgers can obtain a meal before retiring for the night. This is good work, and should be imitated by other wards.

## The Fresh Indian Trouble—Correspondence Between General Sheridan and Sherman.

The telegraphic correspondence between Lieutenant General Sheridan and General Sherman with regard to the fresh trouble with the Indians, published in another part of the paper, shows how well these officers understand the policy to be pursued toward these savages. Both are prepared to act with energy and promptly, and it is to be hoped that neither the Indian Bureau nor the Quaker philanthropists will be able to place any obstacles in their way. This trouble with the Sioux, General Sheridan says, we have been trying to avoid for some time past, but it seems now to be beyond any peaceable solution. Since the Indians murdered Lieutenant Robinson and Corporal Coleman they have killed the chief clerk at the Red Cloud agency. The agent with the tribe of Spotted Tail reports that large parties of hostile Indians from both agencies have left to engage in general hostilities. General Sheridan adds that General Ord was taking measures to protect the settlers, and that he—General Sheridan—would leave for the West immediately to superintend any action that may be necessary. The reply of General Sherman is characteristic. "You will," he says, "be justified in collecting the most effective force possible;" and, further on, adds, "the occasion to give the Sioux a lesson long merited seems to be favorable." What a practical comment is this formidable, threatening outbreak of Indian hostilities on the policy of Congress to reduce the effectiveness of the army! Scarcely has Congress determined to drop five thousand men from the rolls, and let the West suffer if it must, than the war comes, and it appears that the army we actually have is insufficient to keep the Indians quiet. The murders that have recently been committed by the savages and their general warlike movements may, perhaps, cause Congress to hesitate in the proposed action to impair the efficiency of the army. The peace policy with the Sioux Indians has failed, and the war policy will fall too if the army is cut down.

## A Model Charity.

A great many of our most estimable citizens are patrons and nominal managers of the charitable institutions with which New York abounds, and contribute their money liberally in aid of the cause in which they have enlisted. Children's aid societies, Five Points houses of industry and similar charities claim their sympathy and receive their generous assistance. But, unfortunately, they have neither time nor inclination to interest themselves in the manner in which the funds they subscribe are expended. The demands of business and the claims of society occupy their time and their thoughts, and they are too willing to trust to the reports of treasurers, secretaries and superintendents for a faithful account of the manner in which the trust has been discharged. The funds thus fall into the hands of secretaries, superintendents and others who are said to manage them well enough to make them yield large fortunes to the managers. There is some reason to believe that the cost of distributing these institution moneys is so great as to cripple and sometimes to defeat the object of the donors. The report of the Five Points House of Industry for the year ending March, 1873, shows the actual expenditure on the poor to have been fourteen thousand dollars, and the cost of expending this sum to have been twenty-six thousand dollars. The figures are as follows:—  
Provisions.....\$12,088  
Fuel and lights.....1,797  
Clothing.....65  
Medicine and hospital.....76  
Outdoor poor and beneficiaries.....318  
Transportation.....102  
Total.....\$14,406  
These sums may be said to have been expended on the poor, although the "fuel and lights" and "provisions," no doubt, included such as were used by the employees of the institution, as well as by its beneficiaries. On the other hand, we find the following expenditures incurred in distributing this fourteen thousand dollars:—  
Salaries.....\$7,276  
School and teachers salaries.....2,729  
Printing a paper called the Record.....1,314  
Stationery, &c.....789  
Repairs.....1,889  
Furniture.....74  
Incidental.....1,847  
Interest, insurance, taxes and new building.....9,446  
Total.....\$26,104  
These figures need no comment. They speak for themselves. Are they not worthy the consideration of those who give their money so liberally for the support of Superintendent Barnard's House of Industry and suppose they are giving to the poor?

THE WORKING WOMEN'S HOME—How to Use It.—A magnificent building has been erected by one of our wealthiest citizens in our uptown district. It is intended to be a home for working women. The building is not quite finished, but it is far enough advanced to be available as a dormitory for the poor. It is large enough to shelter a thousand people. A little expense on the part of Mr. A. T. Stewart would make it immediately useful. It would cost little and it would redound to his lasting honor.

THE TOMPKINS SQUARE RIOTERS.—Six of the men arrested for participation in the Tompkins square riot were yesterday brought before the Recorder. The evidence against them was very slight, and the Recorder, taking a merciful view of their case, discharged them on their own recognizance. Looking at the doubtful legality of the action of the police, this is perhaps the wisest course to pursue in all cases arising out of the alleged riot.

MEIGGS ON THE WAR CLAIMS.—The proposition of Mr. Meigs that a commission of inquiry be appointed to examine into the claims made against the government on account of property of loyal citizens alleged to have been appropriated during the war deserves attention. The Commission could take testimony, in the districts where the property is alleged to have been taken, into the character of the claimants as well as of the claims. There is a general impression that many of these claims are fraudulent. It is difficult at this date to decide upon the authenticity of the documents upon which they are based, and the temptation to dishonesty is so great that every precaution should be taken to guard against raids on the Treasury under the guise of claims for property seized by the Union army.

## Soup Kitchens and Their Advantages.

At a time like the present it is necessary to resort to extraordinary measures to relieve distress. It may be conceded that to completely relieve is impossible, but that society, in order to give the best effect to benevolence, must restrict its efforts to what is plainly possible. It is scarcely possible to give a good fire to all who are cold or to put comfortable flannel on all the shivering little ones, or to add good meat to the meagre fare of those who need it, for people who have any food, though it be not the best, or any clothes, though thin, or any home, though a cold one, will not class themselves with those dependent on charity. Such as cannot be reached by simple, uncomplicated measures are without the pale of general assistance. Nor does a public remedy propose to help those that can subsist without it.

Society can at least prevent starvation. That may not be the limit of what can be done; but society addresses itself mainly, as we understand it, to relieving extreme misery, and to do this, we believe, soup kitchens are a good practical means, simply because they involve the least possible machinery and leave the largest proportion of money to be devoted to the purchase of food. No other system of charitable aid of which we have heard is so economical in this respect. In great cities they have generally been opened in some places connected with public service, as now it is proposed to open them in station houses or similar places here. Thus the charity escapes the charge of rent. As soup houses are the remedy for an occasion and are not permanent, the service is generally performed either by persons in public employment or by the benevolent whose service is gratuitous. So there is but little to be paid for salaries; some utensils are to be bought, and save for that small reduction all the money the charities may give is actually spent for food and fuel. Let those who look upon this as a small feat examine how the effect of benevolence is lessened by the expense of administering ordinary charities. In a donation now in process of administration Mr. Delmonico gives his services gratuitously in the organization of soup houses, and this generosity is itself equal to a large addition, for the regular charity-mongers would in such cases charge against the fund the salary of a superintendent.

It is objected that soup houses do not relieve a class of poor that are ashamed to have their misery known. This may be true, but is not shown by experience. We have it only as the opinion of some empty-headed speculators in benevolence. But if it be true there is no reason why the charitably disposed should not hunt up these silent sufferers and carry nutriment from the soup houses to their homes. But the police, we believe, are apt to know all such cases, and there is enough true charity in them to help such as keep away from a sense of shame. Another point is that if the police assist in the distribution of public charity—and their assistance is usually part of the soup kitchen machinery—the so-called voluntary paupers can be restrained and kept away. There seems to us, however, to be an undue apprehension of this class. Some superstitious persons will profit in every case where charity comes to the assistance of the wretched, and it is our opinion that not the "bummers," but the canting hypocrites who administer charity on fat salaries, are the worst of these.

CHEAPER TRANSPORTATION FOR THE WORKING CLASSES is needed, and there could be no better time to commence than in this season of distress. And why should not the rich street railroad companies, which have been given valuable privileges by the representatives of the people, do something to help the working classes? Take the Third Avenue Railroad Company, for example, which makes enormous profits out of its franchise, why should it not reduce the fare for the laboring poor? Early in the morning and in the evening when laborers are going to and returning from their work there might be special cars at lower rates of fare for their accommodation. The saving of a few cents a day to them at such a time as the present would prove a great benefit. Let everything possible be done to bridge over this period of distress, and, among other things, lower charges on the street railroad cars, morning and evening, and by special cars if necessary, would be one of the means. What say the city railroad companies? Are they willing to give the help they can so well afford?

AN APPEAL TO THE CHURCHES.—To-morrow we expect to find denominationalism, sectarianism and every other term which signifies division in the Christian Church, if not forgotten, at least overlooked. Roman Catholics, Protestant Episcopalians, Presbyterians, Methodists, Baptists, Congregationalists, Unitarians, Universalists, whatever we call ourselves, we hope we shall be one. Whatever the names we choose or the banners under which we arrange ourselves, let us on Sunday give proof that we are, first of all, Christians and followers of Him who said, "Whosoever shall give a cup of cold water in the name of a disciple shall have a disciple's reward." Forgetful of the reward and mindful only of the duty, let the churches rise to the full measure of their strength, and, through the channel which the world willingly recognizes as legitimate, let Christian liberality freely flow. The churches must not be beaten. To-morrow they will have their opportunity. May they be equal to the occasion! The people want bread, not a stone.

THE REPORT OF THE HOUSE OF REFUGE for the year ending December 31, 1873, shows that there was expended in relief during that year sixty-one thousand dollars, and for salaries thirty-three thousand dollars. That is to say that for every dollar given to the poor the persons giving it put into their own pockets a little more than half a dollar. This is a liberal percentage even for those who look after the spiritual as well as the temporal wants of the inmates of a charitable institution. Mr. Superintendent Israel C. Jones and his associates, if they do not believe that charity begins at home, evidently consider that one-half of it should stay there.

THE GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC is not unmindful of the men who fought and bled for the Union. All soldiers and sailors who apply for relief at the Headquarters will be helped by their old comrades in arms.